

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 4 to read as follows.

As noted, nasal sprays were avoided during development of the invention. By way of background with respect to zinc--bearing nasal sprays, U.S. Pat. No. ~~5,688,32~~ 5,688,532 concerns antiallergic spray preparations and discloses and claims a method for the treatment of an allergic condition in which a spray solution is applied to the eye or respiratory tract of a mammal having the allergic condition. The spray solution includes a non-toxic, anti-allergy effective amount of ionic zinc in a concentration below that which causes irritation to mucus membranes. The majority of the ionic zinc in the spray solution is unchelated zinc and is in the form of free ionic solution, wherein the solution has a zinc ion content of between about 0.002 and about 0.12%(w/v). The allergic condition treated with the spray solution can comprises hay-fever and asthma. The spray solution can be selected from the group consisting of essentially aqueous and essentially saline solutions; can have a zinc ion content of about 0.04% (w/v); can comprise a mineral acid salt of zinc as solute; can comprise a solute selected from the group consisting of zinc sulfate and zinc chloride; can be dispensed in aliquots of about either 0.05 to 0.5 ml or 0.2 ml; and/or, can include at least one other pharmaceutically acceptable ingredient. The other pharmaceutically acceptable ingredient can be selected from the group consisting of antihistamines, scenting agents and active ingredients; or, can comprise ascorbate. U.S. Pat. No. 5,688,532 also discloses and claims an improvement in a method for treatment of an allergic condition by the administration of a zinc compound to a mammal possessed of an allergic condition. The improvement consists essentially of spraying a solution comprising a non-toxic, anti-allergy effective amount of ionic zinc to the eye or respiratory tract of a mammal possess of the allergic condition. The solution comprises a concentration of ionic zinc below that which causes irritation to mucus membranes. The majority of the ionic zinc in the spray is unchelated zinc and is in the form of free ionic solution. The solution has a zinc ion content of between about 0.002 and 0.12%(w/v).